In the Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A pigment, comprising

(A) optionally a layer consisting of a metal,

(B) at least one layer, which is located between the layers (A) and (C), if a layer (A) is present, and consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O), obtained by calcination of plane-parallel structures (flakes) comprising at least one layer consisting of a metal and at least one layer consisting of SiO_z with $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, in a non-oxidizing atmosphere and

(C) optionally a layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

2. **(currently amended)** A pigment according to claim 1, comprising

(B) ~~at least one layer, which consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O),~~ and

(C) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

3. **(currently amended)** The pigment according to claim 1, comprising

(C1) a layer consisting of SiO_z,

(B) ~~at least one layer,~~ which is located between the layers (C1) and (C2), ~~and consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O),~~

(C2) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z on layer (B), wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

4. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 3, comprising

(D) an additional layer of a material having a high index of refraction.

5. **(currently amended)** The pigment according to claim 4, comprising

(D1) a layer of a material having a high index of refraction, especially TiO_2,

(C1) a layer consisting of SiO_z,

(B) ~~at least one layer,~~ which is located between the layers (C1) and (C2), ~~and consists of the metal, silicon (Si) and oxygen (O),~~

(C2) a layer consisting of SiO_z, and

(D2) a layer of a material having a high index of refraction, wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

6. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 1, wherein the metal is selected from Ag, Al, Cu, Cr, Mo, Ni, Ti, or alloys thereof.

7. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 3 having the following layer structure: TiO_2/SiO_z/core/SiO_z/TiO_2, wherein the core is formed of a layer (B) or of a layer (B)/layer (A)/layer (B), wherein the layer (B) is present on the plane-parallel faces, but not the side faces of layer (A), wherein the SiO_z layer is only present on the plane-parallel faces, but not the side faces and the TiO_2 layer is applied to the whole surface; SiC/SiO_z/core/SiO_z/SiC, or C/SiO_z/core/SiO_z/C, wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

8. **(previously presented)** A pigment, obtained by calcination of plane-parallel structures (flakes), comprising (A) at least one layer consisting of a metal and (C) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z with $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$, in a non-oxidizing atmosphere and optionally coating of the obtained flakes with further layers.

9. **(previously presented)** Plane-parallel structures, comprising (A) a layer consisting of a metal, and (C) at least one layer consisting of SiO_z, wherein $0.70 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

10. **(cancelled).**

11. **(currently amended):** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic **[[,]]** composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 1.

12. **(cancelled).**

13. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 1, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

14. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 2, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

15. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 4, wherein the material comprising the additional layer (D) having a high index of refraction is selected from the group consisting of TiO_2, amorphous carbon, diamond-like carbon and silicon carbide.

16. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 5, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

17. **(previously presented)** The pigment according to claim 5, wherein the material comprising layers (D1) and (D2) is TiO_2.

18. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 9, wherein the metal of layer (A) is aluminum.

19. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 9, wherein $1.40 \leq z \leq 2.0$.

20. **(previously presented)** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 2.

21. **(previously presented)** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 8.

22. **(previously presented)** A textile, coating, paint, printing ink, plastic, composition, cosmetic preparation, or a glaze for ceramic and glass, comprising a pigment according to claim 13.